

# ELISTA



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- \* The Republic of Kalmykia — Republic, part of the Russian Federation, the republic of the Russian Federation, included in part of the southern Federal district.
- \* The capital city of Kalmykia is Elista.



# Elista history

- \* By the fall of 1865, there were 15 houses in Elista. This year is considered the year when the city was born. Since the early 20th century, Elista became the center of Manych ulus, Chernoyar district, Astrahan region.
- \* In February 1918, Soviet power was established in Elista. In 1930, Elista became a town. In August 1942, during the World War II, Elista was occupied by German troops. On December, 1942, it was set free by the Soviet Army.
- \* On December, 28th, 1943, the Kalmyk population of Elista was deported by force to Siberia, Kazakhstan and Middle Asia according to Stalin's accuse in cooperating with Germans.
- \* In 1957, the Kalmyks were allowed to come back. From 1944 to 1957, the Kalmyk Autonomous Republic was abolished, Elista was called the town of Stepnoy and was a part of Stavropol region.

# Elista facts

- \* Nowadays Elista is a political, administrative, cultural and economic center of the Republic of Kalmykia.
- \* On a high hill in the southern part of the city there is a memorial in honor of the soldiers who set the capital of Kalmykia free - the tank men of the 6th tank troop of the 28th Army. In 1965, in the park “Drouzhba” the memorial was erected in honor of Komsomol members and partisans who perished during the Civil War and the World War II.
- \* The city has airport, bus terminal and train station. Elista transportation consists only of mini buses.

## Attractions



Pagoda "Seven Days" is located in the central square of the city of Elista. Pyatnatstsatsimyatroyv pagoda was opened in the city in 2005, a day of national celebration Kalmyk Zul. The name of the pagoda was due to the seven floors, which symbolizes the seven days of the week. By the construction of the pagoda on Tibetan lamas of the monastery in India Gyudmed.

- \* In the center is a copper prayer wheel, a height of about 2 meters, covered with gold leaf. It aims to give harmony and tranquility residents city. It incorporated 75 million mantras. According to Buddhist tradition, one revolution of the drum with pure thoughts equivalent to reading all these mantras. The pagoda is surrounded by a small fountain. In general, this construction gives a special oriental flavor of the town's main square.



- \* The largest square, Lenin Square, is located in the city center. There is a fountain “Three lotuses” and a chess board of 5x5 m size there. This place is popular among young people.





- \* Elista has a district called “Chess City.” In its center, there is a Palace of Chess, built to hold various chess competitions. Chess-City is a kind of embodiment of the idea of the project New Vasyuki from the novel “12 Chairs.” The avenue heading there is named after Ostap Bender - the protagonist of the novel.





- \* The main street of the town leads to the Palace of Chess – the main object in the City-Chess. Here are contest of Champions, and on one of the upper floors is a Museum of Chess.





\* Orestes' memorial.

- \* On December, 27th, 2005, the biggest Buddhist chapel in Kalmykia Republic was sanctified - the New Central hurul (Golden Home of Buddha Shakyamuni), inside there is the tallest statue of Buddha in Europe.



- \* The north gate of the complex are not major, but you can go to either side: the gates are located on the four sides of the world as symbols of the four elements: earth, fire, water and wind. On the perimeter fenced khurul alternating every five meters of snow-white stupa. Total 108 stupas. Architectural plan of the monastery has the form of a mandala. The building is surrounded by 17 khurul pagodas with statues of the great Buddhist teachers of Nalanda. Visit time I chose a very appropriate: just a few minutes it seemed the sun, and then started a cold rain.



- \* khurul consists of 7 levels. The first is a library, a museum and a conference room. The second level — a prayer hall with a 9-meter high statue of Buddha Sakyamuni. On the third level are the individual reception room where the monks, a doctor of Tibetan medicine and astrology are receiving believers. The fourth level — the residence of the head of the Buddhist Kalmykia Telo Tulku Rinpoche, and a small conference room. At the fifth level — the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama XIV Tenzin Gyatso. At the sixth level, there are business premises. At the seventh level is a meditation room, which can attend only clerics.





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- \* The Drama theater in Elista which was opened in 1936, was a great event in the cultural life of Kalmykia Republic and is named after its founder Baatr Basangov.





- \* Kalmyk State University, founded in 1970, is widely acknowledged as the first state university in the Republic of Kalmykia. It is a unique higher educational establishment representing Kalmyk ethnic minority in the South of Russia. Its reputation for quality is based on excellence in teaching, research and service to Kalmyk society. Eminent faculty, students and research programs all contribute to KalmSU's academic fame.

**PRESENTATION ENDED**

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ATTENTION :)**